

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, no new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 4-10 and 15-46 are pending and under consideration.

REJECTION UNDER DOUBLE PATENTING:

Claims 4-5, 7-10, 15-23, 28, 31-38, and 40-46 are pending and under consideration. Please find enclosed a copy of a Terminal Disclaimer to address, without prejudice, the Examiner's provisional rejections of the claims under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. In view of the enclosed Terminal Disclaimer, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the provisional rejection of claims 4-5, 7-10, 15-23, 28, 31-38, and 40-46.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102:

In the Office Action, at page 22, claims 4-5, 7-10, 15-24, 26-27, 30-32, 40-43, and 45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 in view of EP 0 833 337 A2 to Aramaki et al. ("Aramaki"). This rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Aramaki generally describes an editing method for **deleting a prescribed section** of a program and editing apparatus thereof. Emphasis added. See abstract of Aramaki. A **recording time** of programs is recorded using 6 bytes, where two bytes are taken for the manufacturers code and a model code showing the manufacturer of the recording apparatus used for recording the program. However, nothing in Aramaki teaches or suggests that any of the bytes includes manufacturer information including "an identification information of the manufacturer of a recording apparatus that **recorded or modified** the content of the recording medium different from the identification information **prior to** the recording or the modification," emphasis added, as recited in independent claim 4. Rather, Aramaki simply stores of the code of the manufacturer of the recording apparatus, not of the manufacturer "that recorded or modified the content of the recording medium different from the identification information prior to the recording or the modification," as recited in independent claim 4.

According to Aramaki, the user determines whether a point designated for an end point designation operation DE is appropriate. See column 31, lines 7-12 of Aramaki. A system

controller 11 then updates U-TOC data for from a section delete start address Ads to a section delete end address Ade **to be deleted** based on the section delete start address Ads and the section delete end address Ade. Emphasis added. See column 31, lines 13-21 of Aramaki. The updated U-TOC data is transferred as recording data and a U-TOC area of disc 1 is carried out. When the updating processing is complete, the section delete is complete. See column 31, lines 22-25 of Aramaki.

However, contrary to the assertions made in the Office Action, Aramaki fails to teach or suggest, “the manufacturer information comprises an identification information of the manufacturer of a recording apparatus that **recorded or modified** the content of the recording medium **different** from the identification information **prior** to the recording or the modification,” emphasis added, as recited in independent claim 4. Rather, Aramaki limits its description to designating a start point and an end point of the section to be deleted and linking the programs preceding and proceeding the erased portion. The cited reference fails to teach or suggest all the claimed features recited in independent claim 4.

Furthermore, the Office Action refers to similar portions of the cited references to reject independent claims 7, 8, 10, and 31 as the portions of the cited references previously discussed and distinguished from the claimed features of independent claim 4. The arguments presented above supporting the patentability of independent claim 4 in view of Aramaki are incorporated herein to support the patentability of independent claims 7, 8, 10, and 31. Accordingly, Aramaki fails to teach or suggest all the claimed features of independent claims 4, 7, 8, 10, and 31. It is respectfully requested that independent claims 4, 7, 8, 10, and 31 and related dependent claims be allowed.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103:

In the Office Action, at page 29, claims 6 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of Aramaki in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,758,355 to Buchanan (“Buchanan”). This rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Because claims 6 and 25 depend from independent claims 4 and 7, respectively, the cited references, individually or combined, must teach or suggest all the claimed features recited in independent claims 4 and 25. The arguments presented above supporting the patentability of independent claims 4 and 25 in view of Aramaki are incorporated herein.

According to Buchanan, company records, for example, may indicate not only which companies are associated with a particular team, but also may identify records in a contact table

that specify the contact persons at the company. See column 2, lines 33-37. A Contact Table of Buchanan includes contact id., first name, last name, company id., row id., modify date, and modify employee. See column 8, lines 40-50. However, similarly to Aramaki, Buchanan fails to teach or suggest “manufacturer information to support a manufacturer’s specific function, wherein the manufacturer information comprises an **identification information of a manufacturer of a recording apparatus**,” emphasis added, as recited in independent claim 4. Rather, the Contact Table appears to merely list employees of different companies modifying a company’s records. There is no teaching or suggestion in Buchanan that the Contact Table stores “identification information of a manufacturer of a recording apparatus,” as recited in independent claim 4. The identification information includes employees modifying records that are related to a team for which an associated remote employee is included. See column 7, lines 47-52. Furthermore, Buchanan fails to teach or suggest “wherein the manufacturer information comprises an identification information of a manufacturer of a recording apparatus **that recorded or modified the content of the recording medium different from the identification information prior to the recording or the modification**,” emphasis added, as recited in independent claim 4.

Furthermore, as commonly understood, the Examiner bears the burden of establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness based upon the prior art. “[The Examiner] can satisfy this burden only by showing some objective teaching in the prior art or that knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art would lead that individual to combine the relevant teachings of the references.” In re Fritch, 23 USPQ 2d 1780, 1783 (Fed. Cir. 1992).

The Office Action has provided absolutely no motivation to combine the cited references. Rather, conclusive statements are made such as that “it would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art . . . to incorporate the capability of adding and deleting the distribution tables as taught by Buchanan into Aramaki et al’s system in order to facilitate the managing the information recorded in the recording medium.” Assuming, *arguendo*, that the description of Buchanan and Aramaki would be combined, the combination would provide company records including contact id., first name, last name, company id., row id., modify date, and modify employee where, during an automatic erase operation, the start point and end point of the section to be deleted would be designated and the contacts preceding and proceeding the erased portion would be linked. However, the combination be silent as to teaching or suggesting, “the manufacturer information comprises an identification information of the manufacturer of a recording apparatus that recorded or modified the content of the recording medium different from the identification information prior to the recording or the modification,” as

recited in independent claims 4 and 7.

"Rejection of patent application for obviousness under 35 USC §103 must be based on evidence comprehended by language of that section, and search for and analysis of prior art includes evidence relevant to finding of whether there is teaching, motivation, or suggestion to select and combine references relied on as evidence of obviousness; factual inquiry whether to combine references must be thorough and searching, based on objective evidence of record." See In re Lee 61 USPQ2d 1430 (CA FC 2002).

Thus, as pointed out in In re Lee, the record must support motivation, i.e., there must be something in the record pointing out where the recited motivation can be found. In addition, there must be some discussion on how that purported motivation or suggestion is even relevant to the reference being modified.

However, only the present invention sets forth all the claimed features, as well as the motivation for combining the same. The outstanding rejection would appear to have taken this teaching of the present invention and applied the same to generate a combination of Buchanan and Aramaki, as set forth in the Office Action, to disclose the presently claimed invention. Applicants respectfully assert that the prima facie burden has not been met. It is respectfully requested that independent claims 4 and 25 and related dependent claims be allowed.

In the Office Action, at page 30, claims 28-29, 33-39, 44, and 46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of Aramaki in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,038,366 to Ohno et al. ("Ohno"). This rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Because claims 46 and claims 33-39 depend from independent claims 4 and 31, respectively, the cited references, individually or combined, must teach or suggest all the claimed features recited in independent claims 4 and 31. The arguments presented above supporting the patentability of independent claims 4 and 31 in view of Aramaki are incorporated herein.

Independent claim 28 recites, "a recorder to record on the recording medium a manufacturer identification information of the recording and/or reproducing apparatus indicating a manufacturer of the **recording and/or reproducing** apparatus as the one to record or modify the content of the recording medium **different** from the identification information **prior** to the recording or the modification." Emphasis added. The Office Action refers to similar portions of Aramaki to reject independent claim 28 as the portions of the cited references previously discussed and distinguished from the claimed features of independent claim 4. The arguments

presented above supporting the patentability of independent claim 4 in view of Aramaki are incorporated herein to support the patentability of independent claim 28.

Ohno generally provides a magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus, which can facilitate search of programs recorded on a magnetic tape. See column 2, lines 14-20 of Ohno. The apparatus checks whether a VTR manufacturer number data as fetched from the tape coincides with the VTR manufacturer number stored in a library memory 4. See column 6, lines 25-31 of Ohno. However, rather than teaching or suggesting that the apparatus records “**manufacturer information to support a manufacturer's specific function, wherein the manufacturer information comprises an identification information of the manufacturer of a recording apparatus that recorded or modified the content of the recording medium different from the identification information prior to the recording or the modification,**” emphasis added, as recited in independent claim 4, in Ohno, unless coincidence is found, a control processing is **terminated** by regarding the tape as loaded is not the one of concern. Emphasis added.

Similarly to Aramaki, Ohno does not teach or suggest, “a recording apparatus for recording and/or editing content on a rewritable recording medium, comprising: a recording controller to record manufacturer information to support a manufacturer's specific function,” as recited in independent claim 4, “a recorder to record on the recording medium a manufacturer identification information of the recording and/or reproducing apparatus indicating a manufacturer of the recording and/or reproducing apparatus as the one to record or modify the content of the recording medium different from the identification information prior to the recording or the modification,” as recited in independent claim 28, and “manufacturer identification information of the apparatus that recorded or modified the content based upon the read manufacturer identification information different from the manufacturer identification information prior to the recording or the modification,” as recited in independent claim 31. Rather, Ohno recognizes that the problem of erroneous recognition of a tape can satisfactorily be coped with by using as tape identification information the manufacture number (i.e., the VTR manufacture number) of the magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus that was used for recording programs on the tape. See column 2, lines 30-37. Accordingly, Aramaki and Ohno, individually or combined, fail to teach or suggest all the claimed features of independent claims 4, 28, and 31 and related dependent claims. It is respectfully asserted that independent claims 4, 28, and 31 and related dependent claims are allowable in view of the prior art of record.

Once again, the Office Action has provided absolutely no motivation to combine the cited references. Rather, conclusive statements are made such as that “it would have been obvious

to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the capabilities of comparing the VTR manufacturer number data recorded on the tape and VTR manufacture number stored in the library memory ... in order to facilitate search of programs recorded on recording medium, indexing of heading portion of the programs and display of teletext or closed caption and the like without essentially incurring additional manufacturing cost of the apparatus." Applicants respectfully assert that the Office Action has failed to establish the *prima facie* case of obviousness based upon the prior art and has failed to present evidence pointing out in either reference where the recited motivation asserted in the Office Action can be found. In addition, there must be some discussion on how that purported motivation or suggestion is even relevant to the reference being modified.

Assuming, *arguendo*, that the description of Ohno and Aramaki would be combined, the combination would provide an editing method for deleting a section of a program by designating a start point and an end point of the section to be deleted and linking the programs preceding and proceeding the erased portion, where if the VTR manufacturer data does not coincide with the VTR manufacturer number stored in the memory, the deletion would be terminated by regarding the tape as loaded as not the one of concern. Such combination fails to teach or suggest all the claimed features of independent claims 4, 28, and 31. It is respectfully requested that independent claims 4, 28, and 31 and related dependent claims be allowed.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.


If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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